

REMARKS

Applicants have reviewed, and carefully considered the non-final Office Action dated January 10, 2006. Claims 1, 6, 9, 19, 23, 24, 32, 37, 40, 43, 50 and 68 have been amended. Claims 1-68 are pending in the application.

In paragraph 2 on page two of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-11, 24-26, 29, 32-35, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43-45, 56, 57, 60 and 63-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamamoto.

In paragraph 3 on page five of the Office Action, claims 1-5, 13-17, 23, 29, 35-39, 55, 60, 66 and 67 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kodama.

In paragraph 2 on page two of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 9-11, 24-26, 29, 32-35, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43-45, 56, 57, 60 and 63-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamamoto.

In paragraph 5 on page eight of the Office Action, claims 27, 28, 58 and 59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamoto.

In paragraph 6 on page nine of the Office Action, claims 30, 61 and 68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Yamamoto or Kodama.

In paragraph 7 on page ten of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 19-21, 35, 37, 38, 51-53, 66 and 68 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections, but in the interest of expediting prosecution have amended the claims to further distinguish the invention over the cited references.

Yamamoto discloses using a CCD device to sense the smoothness of paper and controlling a rolling device to smooth the paper before printing. However, Yamamoto fails to perform, in real time, a print modification to a print device for printing on the measured print

media in response to a measured physical characteristic parameter of the print media.

Yamamoto does not adjust the printing at all. Rather, Yamamoto merely senses the smoothness of paper and then rolls the paper if the paper is determined not to be sufficiently smooth. The printing by Yamamoto is not adjusted at all.

Kodama fails to remedy the deficiencies of Yamamoto. Kodama discloses printing toner patterns on paper. The transfer efficiency of the toner is detected. A development controller then may adjust development conditions of a development unit. However, Kodama fails to disclose, teach or suggest making an on-the-fly measurement of at least one physical characteristic parameter of the print media. Kodama must print the toner patterns and then review them. Only after analyzing the printed toner patterns does Kodama suggest making modifications to printing. Accordingly, Kodama and Yamamoto, alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest the invention as recited in the amended claims.

Cooper fails to remedy the deficiencies of Yamamoto and Kodama. Cooper stores unadjusted stochastic threshold arrays for each color in non-volatile memory. Cooper provides Transfer Function Tables (TFTs) for modifying the unadjusted stochastic threshold array for each color based upon a color selection and a selection of the type of paper. Cooper does not measure a physical characteristic of the print media on-the-fly. Rather, a printing and measuring operation is performed for each combination of color and type of paper. Then, a color to be printed is printed by halftoning the color using an adjusted threshold array. Because Cooper does not measure a physical characteristic of the print media on-the-fly, Cooper does not in real-time perform a print modification to a print device for printing on the measured print media in response to the at least one on-the-fly directly measured physical characteristic parameter of the

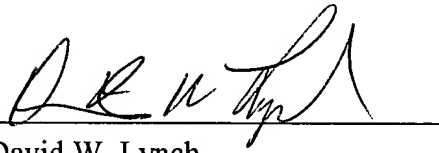
print media. Accordingly, Cooper, Kodama and Yamamoto, alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest the invention as recited in the amended claims.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of this application and its allowance are requested.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Attorney for Applicant, David W. Lynch, at 423-757-0264.

Respectfully submitted,

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